

*Schizaphis minuta* (van der Goot) (Homoptera: Aphididae),  
new to the United States

*Schizaphis minuta* (van der Goot) (Fig. 1) was found for the first time in the Western Hemisphere in suction trap samples in Florida. The first specimen was collected in a trap at Quincy (Gadsden County) for the period 16 - 23 November 1998. The record subsequently was verified by collections on several species of *Cyperus* in the Ft. Pierce area. The aphid is specific to *Cyperus* and is unlikely to pose any threat to agriculture. *Schizaphis minuta* probably is native to Asia and has been recorded previously in Africa and Australia. It is not known to be a pest.

*Schizaphis minuta* can be identified using Eastop's (1961) key. It is most easily recognized by the characteristic asymmetrical siphunculi reminiscent of those found in *Rhopalosiphum* (Fig 2). The median vein of the wing is once-branched, as in other *Schizaphis*.

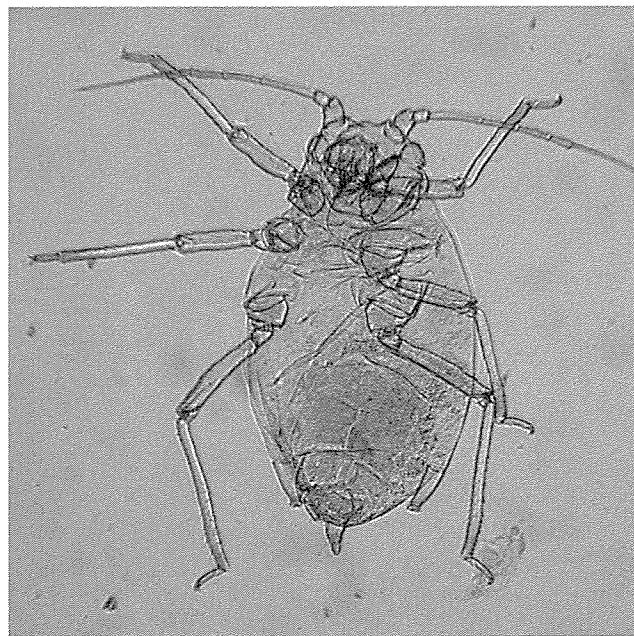
Specimens were found in suction trap samples in Quincy, Ft. Pierce (St. Lucie County), Belle Glade (Palm Beach County), Immokalee (Collier County), Kendall (Miami-Dade County), and Winter Haven (Polk County). *Schizaphis minuta* specimens were

most common in the traps in Ft. Pierce and Immokalee. Only one specimen was collected in Kendall. Populations and flight activity are highest in the winter, when the plants are flowering. The aphids can be found most easily in the flower heads of *Cyperus*.

Literature cited

Eastop, V.F. 1961. A key for the determination of *Schizaphis*, Börner (Aphididae, Hem.). The Entomologist 94: 241-246.

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Figures 1-2. *Schizaphis minuta* (van der Goot) 1. habitus of adult; 2. siphunculus.